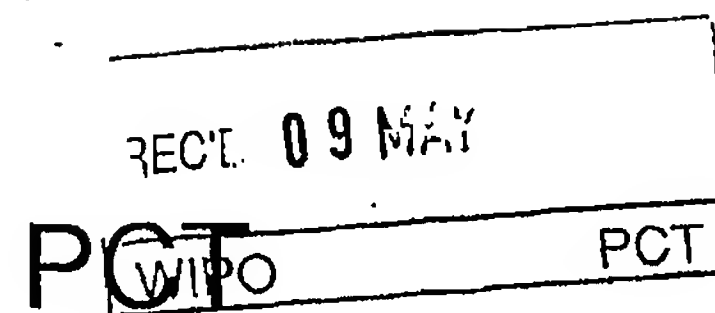
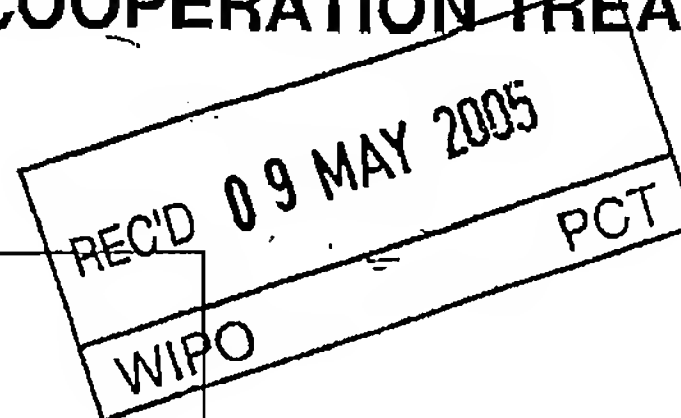


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY



To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/US2005/002186

International filing date (day/month/year)
20.01.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)
29.01.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
C08G64/30

Applicant
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/US2005/002186

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/US2005/002186

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	9,15-18,31-43
	No: Claims	1-8,10-14,19-30,44,45
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-45
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-45
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/US2005/002186

1. The subject-matter of present claims 1-8, 10-14, 19-30, 44 and 45 is not novel for the following reasons:
 - 1.1 D1 (US 2003/149223 A1, examples 6-26, tables 3-5, paragraphs 46, 55 and 58, claims) discloses homo- or co-polycarbonates comprising at least resorcinol and/or hydroquinone and obtained by the melt polymerisation process wherein an organic catalyst (e.g. TMAH or TBPA) and an inorganic catalyst (e.g. NaOH) are added to the reactants (including DPC or BMSC) before heating the reaction mixture.
The subject-matter of present claims 1, 19-30, 44 and 45 is therefore anticipated by the disclosure of D1.
 - 1.2 D2 (EP-A-0 508 775, examples, claims, tables) discloses a copolycarbonate having a yellow index as low as 0.9 and comprising 2-90 %mol of resorcinol as diphenol component, and its manufacturing by the melt polymerisation process comprising either i) the addition of TMAH and NaOH after melting of the reactants (examples 1, 2 and 4-11) or ii) adding boric acid (= inorganic catalyst) to the solid reactants, melting the obtained reaction mixture and then adding TMAH and NaOH (example 3).
The subject-matter of present claims 1-8, 10-14, 19-26, 28-30, 44 and 45 is therefore not novel in view of D2.
- 2.1 The present application document does not provide any indication that any particular technical effect is achieved by the selection of the specific catalyst addition sequence as defined in claims 15-18 and 31-41 as compared to D2 which discloses copolycarbonates having reduced colour. Therefore the selection of the specific catalyst addition sequence must be considered as arbitrary and the problem underlying the application may only be defined as being to provide further alternatives for the preparation of (co)polycarbonates with reduced colour. Such arbitrary selection is routine for the skilled person and cannot substantiate an inventive step.
- 2.2 The subject-matter of present claims 9, 42 and 43 does not involve an inventive step because it relates to already known reactants (D1 uses BMSC) and/or to conventional embodiments known to the person skilled in the art.